



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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EMS TRANSMISSION: 11/17/04
Instruction Memorandum No. CA 2005-008

To: All California Field Office Managers and District Manager, California Desert District Office

From: State Director

Subject: Statewide Protocol for Cultural Resources

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) addresses the transmittal and implementation of the new Statewide Protocol. Our new Statewide Protocol was signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer and me on October 25, 2004, replacing the original Protocol, which was terminated on the same date by the California Office of Historic Preservation. The signing culminated a 2-year effort to redraft the Protocol, an effort which involved several drafts which were circulated to the California Desert District (CDD) and each Field Office for comment.

Transmittal of Protocol: A compact disk containing the Statewide Protocol in its entirety (Protocol Text and Appendices A-E) was mailed on Tuesday, November 9, to each Field Office and CDD. The same file is available for downloading at the FTP site [ftp.blm.gov/blmincoming/CA](ftp://ftp.blm.gov/blmincoming/CA). Each Field Office and the CDD will receive two hard copies of the protocol; however, the copying and assembly is still a few weeks off.

Policy/Action: The key to the success of our new Protocol lies in its implementation. Accordingly, I have made Cultural Resources Protection a California Strategic Priority for FY2005. Our budget and management focus for cultural resources in 2005 will be on implementation of the Protocol.

The Protocol is our central document for management of cultural resources and for compliance with 36 CFR 800. This Protocol firmly establishes my intent, concurred in by the State Historic Preservation Office that we manage cultural resources on a par with other resources and as an important resource in its own right. The Protocol also establishes our procedures for compliance with 36 CFR 800 while providing considerable regulatory relief and procedural streamlining.

It is also my intention that the Protocol be responsive to changing circumstances and particular situations. Consequently, there are ample opportunities to effect changes in the document through revision or amendment and through additions or modifications of the list of Exempt Undertakings (Appendix D).

The Protocol contains several important milestones. I have directed Ken Wilson, State Archaeologist, to prepare a timeline of these milestones for your ready reference. Chief among these milestones is our responsibility to prepare a statewide Historic Preservation Plan with components for each Field Office. This effort will be coordinated by the State Archaeologist.

Contact: Questions and ongoing feedback on Protocol implementation should be addressed to Ken Wilson, CA-930, at (916) 978-4648, or Stephen Horne at (916) 978-4649.

Signed
James Wesley Abbott
Acting State Director

Authenticated
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